

LOC N.O.D.R. Review Decision on File

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Approved For Release 2001/08/24 : CIA-RDP58-00453R000200220002-8

4 June 1953

TO: Project Review Committee
THROUGH: Deputy Director (Intelligence)
SUBJECT: Continuation of Support to the Library of Congress

1. PROBLEM.--To provide an index by subject and area to the open Slavic literature containing information of intelligence value.
2. FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM.--

STATEMENT OF NEED AND VALUE.--Open Soviet literature - books and periodicals - contains a vast amount of information of high intelligence value. It is essential that this literature be made accessible to intelligence researchers. Although Soviet books and periodicals are subject to export restrictions abroad, many have and still do find their way into U.S. libraries; the flow represents an unrivaled source of information on our main target -- the USSR.

The bibliographic projects outlined in this paper are in direct support of the DCI's responsibility under NSCID 16 to develop, as a common service for the intelligence agencies, "indexes, accession lists, and reference services regarding foreign language publications of intelligence interest". The overriding objective, therefore, has been to develop a systematic approach to the collective Soviet publishing output available in the U.S. for the benefit of the intelligence research process. The values accruing to intelligence as a result are as follows:

- a. It improves the quality of intelligence research. Through organized access to Soviet literature the researcher can:

Find evidence that may solve his problem without further investigation.

Uncover useful comparative data for assessing or corroborating information reported by classified means.

Develop new ideas, theories, explanations, or hypotheses which are invaluable in shaping the outcome of the research effort.

- b. It shortens the time an analyst must spend surveying related information in his field; it assures him of completeness and it is kept current.
- c. It gives non-linguists the opportunity to examine references that would be inaccessible otherwise.

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- d. It serves to coordinate requirements for Soviet publications by revealing gaps and deficiencies, and at the same time preventing publications already in the U.S. from being ordered again.
- e. It facilitates research work on the Soviet by academicians and scholars in the U.S.; the results of their efforts consequently aids intelligence.
- f. It satisfies the community's need for this type of bibliographic organization economically. The competence, facilities, and material available at the Library of Congress could not possibly be duplicated in CIA with logical justification.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED.—Prior to the start of CIA's joint project with the Library of Congress in November 1951 there did not exist any English language tool by which researchers could gain access to the information contained in Slavic publications available in the U.S. At the instigation of the research offices in CIA, and with IAC endorsement, the PRC approved a project which was designed to remedy this situation. The project has developed as follows:

a. MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS (see Tab A and B)

The MLRA was reorganized and now (a) records the Slavic book receipts of 57 cooperating U.S. libraries, and (b) provides, in English, full subject access to books bearing an imprint date of 1945 or later; and, to articles appearing in over 400 Russian periodicals currently received in this country.

b. CYRILLIC UNION SUBJECT CATALOG (see Tab C)

A completely new research tool has evolved which organizes in one catalog, by subject, the Russian books (including those in Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Belo-Russian, and related languages) held by the Library of Congress and the major research libraries of the U.S. The project involves recataloging, in English, all books bearing an imprint date of 1917 to 1952; it is near completion except for the transliteration, typing and reproduction of some 54,000 entries. CIA Library maintains a catalog of completed cards for use of intelligence research personnel.

3. DISCUSSION.—The research tools developed thus far have received high praise from users. Two major deficiencies, however, have been brought to light:

- a. There is no approach by author or institute to the book and periodical articles recorded in the MLRA. An author-institute index to open Soviet literature is urgently required for purposes of scientific intelligence and for all phases of biographic intelligence. This type of index could be developed as a by-product of the routine MLRA processing with nominal increase in cost. (see Tab D)

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- b. No provision has been made to catalog, on a continuing basis, post-1952 material in the Cyrillic Union Subject Catalog. Once the basic project of recataloging books of 1917 to 1952 imprint is over, the resultant catalog will decline in usefulness unless it is kept current by processing new material into it. (see Tab C)

The Librarian of Congress in a letter to the DCI dated 14 April 1953, (see Tab E) has estimated that the total project, with improvements, would involve the following funds in FY54:

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MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS

To continue MLRA in present form

To develop By-product biographic and institutional information cards

CYRILLIC UNION SUBJECT CATALOG

To complete transliteration and typing of cards for books now under subject control


To maintain the catalog on a current basis through FY54

Supervision of the projects


25X1A

Grand Total

\$295,929

4. CONCLUSION.--No equivalent to the MLRA or the Cyrillic Union Subject Catalog exists which can serve the intelligence researcher, now or in the future, in studying the Soviet. The continuation of support to the Library of Congress for the development of these research tools is considered justified and in full accord with the needs and responsibilities expressed in NSC/D 16.
5. ACTION RECOMMENDED.--Approval of a net increase of \$178,344, to authorize a total allocation of  to the Library of Congress for work on the projects during FY54.

25X1A


Deputy Assistant Director
Collection & Dissemination

ANNEXES: Tab A, B, C, D, E

CONCURRENCES:

AB/DR

Date

AB/CI

Date

ACTION BY APPROVING AUTHORITY:

Date _____

Approved (disapproved), exceptions, if any.

Signature _____
Director or Deputy Director

TAB

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TAB A.

OLD MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS

This was the first serious effort to bring under control the entire volume of Russian-language books and periodicals coming into the United States.

Some thirty to fifty universities and public libraries contributed information on the materials they were receiving, and the Library of Congress published the monthly listing with its own resources.

48 issues were published: the first in April 1948, and the last in February 1952, when the greatly improved New MLRA was undertaken with CIA support.

The Old MLRA provided the following:

For BOOKS:

1. Author's name, transliterated
2. Title, transliterated
3. Subject breakdown, in 17 very broad categories.
(For example, all books on economics, industry, finance, etc. were listed under the one heading "Social Sciences" together with works on sociology, anthropology, psychology, etc.)

Sample entry: (Under the subject heading "TECHNOLOGY")

CHEKOTILLO, Andrei Markovich. Piat' let
stroitel'stva i eksploatatsii ledian'nykh
skladov; itogi i vyvody. Moskva, Izd-vo
Akademii nauk SSSR, 1946. 78 p.

For MAGAZINES:

1. Title of magazine, transliterated.
2. Title of magazine, translated.
3. Subject breakdown, in 17 very broad categories.
(Each issue of each journal listed once, under the broad subject heading in which its content for the most part belonged).
4. Author's name, transliterated, for each magazine article.
5. Title, transliterated, for each magazine article.

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TAB B.

NEW MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS

Defects in the old MLRA were so serious that they rendered it impossible for intelligence analysts - except those with Russian-language ability - to gain any value from it. Even those able to read Russian were greatly handicapped in their approach to the overt Russian literature by the List's failure to give adequate subject breakdowns.

CIA, in November 1951, approved funds for support of the Library of Congress's MLRA in order that it might be improved in such ways as to make it of value to intelligence analysts without Russian-language ability.

The first issue of the New MLRA was published in March 1952, and it has appeared regularly ever since.

The New MLRA provides the following:

For BOOKS:

1. Author's name, transliterated
2. Title, transliterated
3. Translation of title into English
4. Detailed subject breakdown

Sample entry: (Under the two subject headings TIN and COPPER. In the Old MLRA would have been listed only under SOCIAL SCIENCES).

DIKANSKII, M.G. (Tin and Copper Market of the Capitalist Countries after World War II) Rynok olova i medi kapitalisticheskikh stran posle vtoroi mirovoi voyny. Moskva, Vneshtorgizdat, 1952. 75 pp.

For MAGAZINES:

1. Title of magazine, transliterated
2. Title of magazine, translated
3. Author's name, transliterated, for each magazine article.
4. Title, transliterated, for each magazine article.
5. Title, translated, for each magazine article.
6. Detailed subject breakdown for each magazine article in the same way as for books.

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TAB C.

CYRILLIC UNION SUBJECT CATALOG

In 1942 the Library of Congress began assembling an author catalog of publications, in the cyrillic alphabet, known as the SLAVIC UNION CATALOG. It listed all the Slavic books available in the U.S. with an indication of the particular library in which they were located; by 1952 the catalog held 220,000 entries. From an intelligence standpoint, the catalog had a major weakness: there was no way of finding Russian books dealing with a specific subject or area. In November 1951, PRC approved a project for recasting the SLAVIC UNION CATALOG into a CYRILLIC UNION SUBJECT CATALOG. It called for recataloging material in the cooperating libraries in detail by subject, area, and title, in English. A sample of a typical card appears below. Elements underlined in red are the cross references under which additional cards would be filed for this entry in the main catalog.

ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION.

GORSHKOV, A. S.

Tekhniko-ekonomicheskie pokazateli teplovykh
elektricheskikh stantsii [Technical-economic
indices of thermoelectric power plants]
Moskva, Gos. energ. izd-vo, 1949. 287 p.
(50-26855)

TK1041.G67

1. Electric power production. 2. Electric
power-plants.

Library of Congress

Cyrillic Union Subject
Catalog

45401

The Library of Congress has been unable to complete this project according to schedule mainly because of difficulties encountered in hiring typists who can transliterate from the cyrillic. The Librarian of Congress estimates that a sum of [REDACTED] is required to transliterate and type 54,000 remaining entries on stencils for reproduction on cards. Failure to complete this work will mean that considerable sums already expended to review the material, bring it under subject control, and translate titles into English, will be wasted.

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When the project is done intelligence researchers will have available in the CIA Library and at the Library of Congress a catalog of over one million cards covering all subjects in Slavic books printed from 1917 to 1952. The catalog will increase in usefulness and timeliness if post-1952 books are similarly cataloged and interfiled with the previous material. The Librarian of Congress reports that about 25,000 new cyrillic titles are received annually by the cooperating U.S. libraries; he estimates that 1953-1954 publications can be cataloged for a sum of [REDACTED]

25X1A

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TAB D.

BIOGRAPHIC AND INSTITUTIONAL DATA IN THE
MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS

There remains in the MLRA, as it is now being produced with CIA support, a serious defect from an intelligence standpoint:

The MLRA does not now provide an alphabetic index to the authors of the books and magazine articles listed. Such an index is urgently needed for purposes of scientific intelligence and for all phases of biographic intelligence.

For example: Neither the Biographic Register nor its publication, SOVIET MEN OF SCIENCE, has any information on a Russian by the name of S.A. Gutsevich. However, the New MLRA shows that this man is the author of a 171-page book entitled "Survey of the Rust Fungi of the Crimea", published by the Leningrad State University in 1952.

This subject is of high importance from the standpoint of biological warfare. It is therefore important that we find out as much as we can about Gutsevich, and about any similar studies being pushed by the Leningrad State University. At present we have no means of doing so.

The additional \$25,234 requested for the MLRA would provide for CIA two or more copies of each entry in the MLRA in card form. These would be filed by the Biographic Register, alphabetically by name of author, and alphabetically by name of the institution concerned.

Thus, at relatively small additional cost, CIA would be able in future to look in its file under the name of S.A. Gutsevich, and immediately find out the titles and dates of all books and magazine articles which he had published. It would also learn with what institutions he had been working. By looking under the name of Leningrad State University it would find out what other books and articles on similar subjects had been published by that institution, together with the names of the scientists concerned.

An approach of this sort - somewhat similar to Shepard's Citations in the legal field - is by all odds the best and cheapest way of finding out what scholars and scientists are doing in the USSR.

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THE LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

APR 14 1953

Attention: Mr. James N. Andrews
Assistant Director, Office of Collection
and Dissemination

Sir:

A thorough review of the products of the Cyrillic Union Catalog Project -- the expanded Monthly List of Russian Accessions and the Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog -- at the end of the first calendar year of full production justifies entirely, I believe, the original decision of your Agency to undertake the project.

Monthly List of Russian Accessions

Allocated
Fiscal 1953

Requested for
Fiscal 1954

25X1A

With the aid of your Agency, the Monthly List of Russian Accessions is now the most nearly complete current bibliography of Russian publications that is available outside the Soviet Union, largely taking the place of the unobtainable Soviet national bibliography, Knizhnaya Letopis. Although the original estimates were somewhat low and required revision after the first few months of operation on the expanded basis, I believe the resulting product adequately meets the specifications originally presented by your agency together with the changes requested from time to time to increase the usefulness of the publication.

The present staff of the Monthly List is adequate for maintaining it in its present form and coverage. However, lack of personnel trained in the proofreading of typed cards is delaying

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production. To overcome this situation in part one of the filer-typists has been trained in this work and detailed to do the job. One person cannot handle the work load, however, so we have added two GS-5 proof readers in estimating the budget for fiscal 1954. The remaining differential between the estimates for fiscal 1954 and fiscal 1953 is the result of anticipated in-grade salary increases to staff members, the promotion of two assistants originally hired as trainees, and the addition of one translator.

Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog

Allocated	To be returned to	Requested for
Fiscal 1953	your Agency	Fiscal 1954

25X1A



Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog -- Completion of
Typing Entries -- 1917 to June 30, 1952

The delay experienced in developing the typing staff to prepare multilith mats for cards for the Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog has created a considerable savings which will be returned to your Agency in May, 1953, as agreed upon in our letter of August 8, 1952. At the same time, this delay forestalled completion of the typing and reproduction of the cards by June 30, 1953, as we had originally anticipated. The request submitted herewith is for funds adequate to complete the typing of mats and the reproduction of cards for entries already brought under subject control. Failure to complete this work will mean that the considerable sums expended for the subject control work will have been wasted.

With the completion of this catalog there will be available for your Agency, other government agencies, and research workers generally, the free world's only available extensive subject control of Russian publications from 1917 to June 30, 1952.

Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog -- Continuation
from July 1, 1952

When the work on the Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog was begun, it was realized that current additions representing materials acquired by the Library of Congress and the 32 cooperating research

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libraries could not be handled with the available staff if the major work of producing subject entries for the existing catalog was to be accomplished within the limits of the project. Therefore, the entries received for the catalog after July 1, 1952, have been held for processing into the Cyrillic Union Catalog until the work on the catalog from 1917 to June 30, 1952 has been completed. The Library of Congress does have its own control over these entries.

Bringing these cards under subject control and then continuing the development of the catalog on a current basis is the only feasible method of obtaining comprehensive subject control for Russian publications (including those in Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Serbian, Belo-Russian and related languages) held by the Library of Congress and the major research libraries of the United States.

To a limited degree subject control over monographic materials can be obtained through the Monthly List of Russian Accessions. The most serious drawback of the Monthly List with regard to such control is the fact that it is not comprehensive in its coverage, since it includes only monographs bearing an imprint after 1945. Thus, books printed before 1945 and received by the Library of Congress or the cooperating libraries are not included in the Monthly List, but are entered only in the Slavic Union Catalog (an author catalog). The only way to place them under subject control would be to include them in the Cyrillic Union Subject Catalog on a current basis.

It is estimated that a total of 25,000 Cyrillic titles are received annually by the Library of Congress and the cooperating libraries. In order to bring the Cyrillic Union Subject Catalog up to date in fiscal 1954, a total of some 50,000 entries will have to be processed (25,000 received between July 1, 1952, and June 30, 1953; and 25,000 received in fiscal 1954).

With the completion of this project, continuation of the program on a current basis would require about half the staff necessary for the current two-year program.

Current Biographical Project

New Project

Requested for
Fiscal 1954

25X1A

The current biographical project proposed by your representatives would in essence be a by-product of the operations of the Monthly List of Russian Accessions. In preparing translations of,

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and subject headings for, periodical articles and books, the translator-catalogers would also add to the manuscript cards biographical information given about the authors. The institute or agency with which the author is connected will be given as indicated in the original publication. After the manuscript cards have been copied for the Monthly List they will be copied on multilith mats for reproduction on 4 x 6 inch cards.

The card will contain the name of the author as the main entry, followed by the translated title of the article or book and the issue of the periodical from which the information is taken. Institutions and agencies with which the author is affiliated, his title, and other pertinent information will be typed on the adopted card.

In addition the proposed project would examine various abstracting services as designated by your Agency, such as Chemical Abstracts, Physics Abstracts, British Abstracts, Biological Abstracts, etc., for abstracts taken from Soviet publications when they are received in the Library. These abstracts would be photostated and sent to your Agency.

Supervision of Cyrillic Union Catalog Units

Allocated
Fiscal 1953

Requested for
Fiscal 1954

25X1A

The additional \$308 requested for this section of the program is needed to cover the anticipated in-grade increases for incumbents.

Comparison of Finances - Fiscal 1953-1954

Funds supplied by your Agency for fiscal 1953	Amount to be returned to your Agency in May, 1953	Amount requested for fiscal 1954
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in developing its various projects to make more effective the acquisition and utilization of Slavic materials, the Library of Congress has sought the advice of the Association of Research Libraries, the Joint Committee on Slavic Studies, and leading Slavic scholars.

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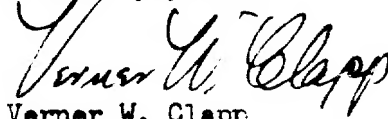
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From these sources and from other users of the expanded Monthly List of Russian Accessions, have come praise for the publication and added evidence that in its present form it is more than ever indispensable to Government agencies engaged in the national defense effort. The increasing value of the Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog is already apparent, and when it is completed and available for full use, there is no doubt that it, too, will soon command the appreciation of all workers with Slavic materials. The wholehearted cooperation being received from research libraries throughout the country which have extensive Slavic collections is indicative of the wide-spread recognition of the potential value of the project.

Every effort will be made, of course, to operate this next year's program at the lowest cost consistent with effective and efficient performance and with the needs of your organization. It will also be our purpose to return to you any unobligated amount remaining in May, 1954.

Sincerely yours,



Verner W. Clapp
Acting Librarian of Congress

Enclosure

Honorable Allen Dulles
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

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MONTHLY LIST OF RUSSIAN ACCESSIONS

1 Editor	GS-12	\$ 7,240	
1 Senior Trans.-Indexer	GS-11	6,140	
12 Translator-Indexers	GS-9	63,095	
2 Junior Trans.-Indexers	GS-7	8,660	
5 Editorial Assistants	GS-5	17,675	
2 Proof Readers	GS-5	6,820	
1 Typist	GS-4	3,175	
1 Typist	GS-3	<u>3,030</u>	
Total personal services			\$115,835
Repairs to equipment		500	
Supplies		1,500	
Equipment		500	
Travel		<u>200</u>	
Total other than personal services			<u>2,700</u>
Total			118,535
Plus 10%			<u>11,853</u>

TOTAL UNIT COST

\$130,388

CYRILLIC SUBJECT UNION CATALOG-Continuation from July 1, 1952

1 Unit head	GS-12	7,240	
1 Subject cat. translator	GS-9	5,185	
2 Accession searchers	GS-5	6,820	
4 Cyrillic typists	GS-4	12,700	
1 Card copy editor	GS-7	4,330	
1 Card prep. & filing super.	GS-6	3,920	
2 English typists	GS-3	5,900	
1 Cyrillic catalog filer	GS-4	3,175	
1 Slavic catalog filer	GS-4	3,175	
1 Multilith operator	WB-9	<u>3,200</u>	
Total personal services			55,645
Repairs to equipment		50	
Supplies		3,000	
Total other than personal service			<u>3,050</u>
Total			58,695
Plus 10%			<u>5,869</u>

TOTAL UNIT COST

64,564

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CYRILLIC SUBJECT UNION CATALOG-Completion of typing entries-1917 to July 1, 1952

1 Unit Head	GS-9	\$ 5,060	
8 Cyrillic typists	GS-4	\$26,040	
2 Proof readers	GS-7	8,660	
2 English typists	GS-3	5,900	
2 Editors	GS-7	<u>8,660</u>	
Total personal services			\$ 54,320
Plus 10%			<u>5,432</u>

TOTAL UNIT COST

\$ 59,752

CURRENT BIOGRAPHICAL PROJECT

1 Cataloger	GS-9	5,185	
2 Editorial clerks	GS-4	6,350	
2 Typists	GS-3	<u>5,900</u>	
Total personal service			17,435
Supplies		4,000	
Equipment		<u>1,505</u>	
Total other than personal service			<u>5,505</u>
Total			22,940
Plus 10%			<u>2,294</u>

TOTAL UNIT COST

25,234

SUPERVISION OF CYRILLIC UNION CATALOG UNITS

1 Chief, Cyrillic Union Catalog Section	GS-13	8,560	
1 Secretary	GS-4	3,175	
1 Messenger	GS-2	<u>2,830</u>	
Total personal service			14,565
Plus 10%			<u>1,456</u>

TOTAL UNIT COST

16,021

GRAND TOTAL-CYRILLIC UNION CATALOG PROJECT

\$295,959

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RECAPITULATION - Total Estimated Budgets

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Monthly List of Russian Accessions

Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog - Continuation

Cyrillic Subject Union Catalog - Typing entries

Current Biographical Project

Supervision of Cyrillic Union Catalog Units

TOTAL

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